

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5883

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO CINCPAC

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, VS

SUBJECT: STATEMENT ON FPJMT

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SECDEF FOR OASD/PA

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THE MISSION ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT AFTER TODAY'S

(JUNE 18) FPJMT MEETING AT WHICH THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AND "PRG" AGAIN REFUSED TO DISCUSS ANY ISSUE BUT THEIR NEW DEMANDS FOR "PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES" AND THEN WALKED OUT. THE STATEMENT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF AND THE DEPARTMENT AND ADDRESSEE POSTS MAY WISH TO DRAW UPON IT IN RESPONDING TO INQUIRIES ON THE STATUS OF THE FPJMT NEGOTIATIONS.
QUOTE:

SAIGON, JUNE 18, 1974 -- THE U.S. MISSION SPOKESMAN TODAY ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT.

ALL OF THE DELEGATIONS TO THE FOUR PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM, INCLUDING THAT OF THE UNITED STATES, MET TODAY AT THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED PLENARY SESSION. DESPITE THE FACT THAT ALL OF THE PRIVILEGES THEY HAD ENJOYED BEFORE APRIL 16 WERE FULLY RESTORED BY THE RVN ON JUNE 7, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AND THE "PRG" DELEGATIONS PRESENTED FAR-REACHING NEW DEMANDS FOR WHAT THEY DESCRIBED AS "PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES". THEY DEMANDED THAT THE FPJMT IMMEDIATELY AGREE TO THESE NEW DEMANDS. THEY REJECTED SUGGESTIONS BY THE U.S. AND RVN DELEGATIONS THAT THIS WAS MORE PROPERLY A MATTER FOR THE TWO PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION, OR TO REFER THE MATTER TO A SPECIAL SUBCOMMITTEE SO THAT THE PLENARY SESSIONS COULD GET ON WITH THE WORK OF EXCHANGING INFORMATION ON THE MISSING AND DEAD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MISSION OF THE FPJMT AS DEFINED UNDER ARTICLE 8 (B) OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT. WHEN THE U.S. DELEGATION ON JUNE 13 PRESENTED AN UPDATED LIST OF SOME 1,100 AMERICAN PERSONNEL MISSING IN ACTION IN INDOCHINA AND 1,200 DEAD WHOSE REMAINS HAVE NOT BEEN RECOVERED, THE COMMUNIST DELEGATIONS FLATLY REFUSED TO DISCUSS IT. THEY MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY WOULD NOT DISCUSS ANY ISSUE RELATED TO THE WORK OF THE FPJMT AS SET FORTH IN ARTICLE 8 (B) UNTIL THEIR DEMAND FOR A VAST EXTENSION OF THEIR SO-CALLED "PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES" HAD BEEN AGREED BY THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM.

THERE IS A MASSIVE AND BRUTAL IRONY IN THIS CYNICAL ACTION BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AGREED TO, OF COURSE, BY ITS ADJUNCT IN THE SOUTH, THE SO-CALLED "PRG". FOR IT PROVIDES A STRIKING CONTRAST WITH THE ACTIONS WHICH ARE NOW TAKING PLACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THERE, THE ANTAGONISMS AND HOSTILITY
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BETWEEN THE PARTIES HAS BEEN MUCH LONGER IN DURATION. YET IN THE MIDEAST THERE IS A REAL DESIRE OF BOTH PARTIES FOR PEACE; THERE IS A RECOGNITION THAT WHILE MANY DIFFICULT SOLUTIONS REMAIN TO BE WORKED OUT, THEY MUST BE SOLVED BY PATIENT AND SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS WHICH CANNOT BE EFFECTIVE WHILE THE FIGHTING CONTINUES.

IN VIET-NAM, THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM HAS BEEN READY FOR

ALL THESE MONTHS TO MAKE THE CEASE-FIRE EFFECTIVE AND THEN TO SERIOUSLY DISCUSS AND AGREE ON REASONABLE MODALITIES TO QUICKLY IMPLEMENT ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT. YET THE NORTH VIETNAMESE HAVE CONTINUED AND STEPPED UP THEIR MILITARY ATTACKS. APPARENTLY FEARING DEFEAT IN ANY FAIR POLITICAL CONTEST FOR THE ALLEGIANCE OF THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIET-NAM, THEY ARE STILL TRYING UNSUCCESSFULLY TO CONQUER THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIET-NAM BY PURE MILITARY FORCE. IT IS NOW CLEAR THAT SUCH ATTEMPTS CANNOT POSSIBLY SUCCEED, YET THE ILLUSORY DREAM OF THE AGING LEADERS OF HANOI THAT THE "MANDATE OF HEAVEN", COMPELS THEM TO BRING ALL OF SOUTHEAST ASIA UNDER THE HEGEMONY OF HANOI STILL SACRIFICES THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS OF THEIR YOUNG MEN IN THIS FRUITLESS AMBITION WHICH IS DOOMED TO FAILURE.

IN THE MIDDLE EAST THE GUNS ARE SILENT. THE KILLING HAS CEASED. A CEASE-FIRE IS EFFECTIVE. YET IN SOUTH VIET-NAM, ONE YEAR, FOUR MONTHS AND 21 DAYS AFTER THE PARIS AGREEMENT BECAME EFFECTIVE, THE CEASE-FIRE CALLED FOR IS NOT HONORED BY NORTH VIET-NAM. ONE YEAR AND FIVE DAYS AFTER THE SIGNATURE OF THE JUNE 13 COMMUNIQUE WHICH AGAIN CALLED FOR A CEASE-FIRE, IT IS STILL NOT HONORED BY NORTH VIET-NAM. DURING THIS MORE THAN ONE YEAR AND FOUR MONTHS 66,263 YOUNG NORTH VIETNAMESE SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN KILLED AND AN ESTIMATED 175,000 MEN OF BOTH SIDES HAVE BEEN WOUNDED.

THE NORTH VIETNAMESE STILL WILL NOT EVEN DISCUSS A CEASE-FIRE IN ANY OF THE FORA PROVIDED BY THE PARIS AGREEMENT. BUT THEY ARE WILLING TO DISCUSS A VAST EXTENSION OF THEIR "PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES" IN THE TWO PARTY COMMISSION AND IN THE FOUR PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM.

IN THE MIDDLE EAST THE PARTIES HAVE AGREED UPON THE
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DELIMITATION OF THE AREAS UNDER THE CONTROL OF BOTH SIDES. A "CEASE-FIRE" CANNOT LAST WITHOUT CLEAR AND AGREED DEFINITIONS OF SUCH AREAS. IN CONTRAST IN SOUTH VIET-NAM, FOR MORE THAN SIXTEEN MONTHS THE NORTH VIETNAMESE HAVE REFUSED TO EVEN BEGIN TO DISCUSS THIS ESSENTIAL STEP. YET THEY ARE WILLING TO DISCUSS A VAST EXTENSION OF THEIR PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.

IN THE MIDDLE EAST, THERE HAS BEEN AGREEMENT ON IMPARTIAL, INTERNATIONAL MACHINERY TO SUPERVISE THE CEASE-FIRE AND THE DELIMITATION OF THE AREAS UNDER THE CONTROL OF EACH SIDE. IN SOUTH VIET-NAM THE NORTH VIETNAMESE HAVE FLATLY REFUSED TO PERMIT THE FULL DEPLOYMENT OF THE ICCS TEAMS WITHIN THE AREAS UNDER THE DE FACTO CONTROL OF THEIR SIDE; THEY HAVE REFUSED EVEN TO DESIGNATE THE POINTS OF ENTRY WHERE ICCS TEAMS COULD SUPERVISE THE ENTRY OF THE ONE-FOR-ONE REPLACEMENTS

PERMITTED UNDER THE PARIS AGREEMENT; THEY HAVE VIOLENTLY
CRITICIZED THOSE ICCS DELEGATIONS WHO HAVE AT LEAST TRIED TO
PERFORM THE FUNCTIONS PRESCRIBED BY THE AGREEMENT, AND THEY
HAVE TRIED TO DESTROY THE ICCS BY WITHHOLDING THEIR AGREED
SHARE OF THE COSTS OF THE ICCS WHICH THEY HAD SOLEMNLY UNDER-
TAKEN TO PROVIDE. THEY PLEAD ECONOMIC HARDSHIPS IN THE NORTH,
THESE ARE REAL BUT DO NOT SEEM TO PREVENT THE SHIPMENT OF
MASSIVE QUANTITIES OF WAR MATERIEL AND THOUSANDS OF THEIR
YOUNG MEN INTO SOUTH VIET-NAM, BOTH IN OBVIOUS VIOLATION OF
THEIR SOLEMN PROMISES WHEN THEY SIGNED THE PARIS AGREEMENT.

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5884

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INFO CINCPAC

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 SAIGON 7991

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, VS

SUBJECT: STATEMENT ON FPJMT

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

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ALTHOUGH THE NORTH VIETNAMESE WILL NOT EVEN DISCUSS THESE
ACTS DESIGNED TO DESTROY THE ICCS THEY ARE WILLING TO DISCUSS A
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VAST EXTENSION OF THEIR PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.
IN THE MIDDLE EAST THE PRISONERS OF THAT WAR HAVE ALL BEEN
RETURNED TO THEIR FAMILIES. IN VIET-NAM, THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE
HAVE FULLY CARRIED OUT THEIR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE AGREEMENT
AND HAVE RETURNED ALL OF THE 31,961 PRISONERS OF WAR AND
CIVILIAN PRISONERS TO THE OTHER SIDE. THE NORTH VIETNAMESE
HAVE RETURNED ONLY 6,065 PRISONERS OF WAR AND CIVILIAN
PRISONERS, AND REFUSE TO DISCUSS THE NEARLY 100,000 MISSING
MILITARY AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL, SEVERAL THOUSAND OF THEM
KNOWN STILL TO BE HELD BY THEM. ALTHOUGH THEY REFUSE TO DIS-
CUSS THESE HUMANITARIAN CONCERNS, THEY ARE WILLING TO DIS-
CUSS A VAST INCREASE IN THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES THEY
HAVE DEMANDED.

IN THE MIDDLE EAST THE DEAD HAVE BEEN LAID HONORABLY TO
REST IN THEIR HOMELANDS AND THE MISSING IN ACTION ARE RAPIDLY
BEING ACCOUNTED FOR. YET IN VIET-NAM, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE
HAVE NOT ONLY REFUSED TO DISCUSS THE MISSING IN ACTION BUT HAVE
RECEIVED PRENOTIFICATION OF A PROJECTED OPERATION IN SOUTH
VIETNAMESE CONTROLLED TERRITORY AND DELIBERATELY INFILTRATED
THE RECOVERY SITE AND MURDERED IN COLD BLOOD AN UNARMED
AMERICAN MEMBER OF THE CASUALTY RECOVERY TEAM. ALTHOUGH THEY
WILL NOT DISCUSS THE MISSING IN ACTION, THEY WILL DISCUSS
THEIR DEMAND FOR A VAST INCREASE IN THEIR PRIVILEGES AND
IMMUNITIES.

IN THE MIDDLE EAST THE KILLING HAS STOPPED AND A GENUINE
EFFORT IS BEING MADE TO BRING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE TERRORISTS
UNDER CONTROL. YET IN VIET-NAM, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE WOULD
NOT EVEN DISCUSS THE PROPOSAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF
VIET-NAM TO CEASE THE USE OF WEAPONS OF MASS TERROR - THE USE
OF LAND MINES, MORTARS, ROCKETS, AND LONG RANGE ARTILLERY 11
WHOSE INDISCRIMINATE USE AGAINST CIVILIANS HAS LITTLE, IF ANY
MILITARY VALUE BUT WHICH RESULT IN THE KILLING AND MAIMING
OF INNOCENT CIVILIANS AND THE CHILDREN SUCH AS THOSE AT CAI
LAY AND SONG PHU. THE NORTH VIETNAMESE HAVE REFUSED TO
DISCUSS THIS REASONABLE AND HUMANITARIAN PROPOSAL. BUT THEY
ARE READY TO DISCUSS THE VAST EXTENSION OF THEIR PRIVILEGES
AND IMMUNITIES THEY HAVE DEMANDED.

AN END OF THE WAR IS, OF COURSE, THE REAL BUSINESS AT

HAND. NO AMOUNT OF ABSORPTION IN TRIVIAL AND EXTRANEIOUS POINTS OF PROCEDURE WILL OBSCURE FROM THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE OR FROM WORLD OPINION THE FACT THAT THE END OF THE WAR MUST START
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WITH AN EFFECTIVE CEASE-FIRE, AND THAT A TRULY EFFECTIVE CEASE-FIRE CAN ONLY BE WORKED OUT BETWEEN THE VIETNAMESE PARTIES. THE LONGER THE FIGHTING IS PROLONGED THE GREATER THE RESPONSIBILITY WHICH NORTH VIET-NAM MUST BEAR FOR ITS CYNICAL AND HOPELESS ATTEMPTS TO MAKE OF THE SUFFERING OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE THE COIN OF POLITICAL HEGEMONY OVER ALL SOUTHEAST ASIA. PEACE CAN COME TO VIET-NAM AS IT HAS COME TO THE MIDDLE EAST BUT, AS IN THE MIDDLE EAST, BOTH SIDES MUST DESIRE IT AND WORK IN GOOD FAITH TO BRING IT ABOUT. THE PARIS AGREEMENT PROVIDES THE NECESSARY MECHANISM. THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM ARE COMMITTED TO THE FULL AND COMPLETE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE ACCORDS AND IS FULLY SUPPORTED IN THIS BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES WHICH SHARES THE SAME POSITION. IF THE OTHER SIDE WILL ONLY BEGIN TO SHOW AN EQUALLY SERIOUS INTENT THEN WE COULD SOON SEE AN END TO THIS WAR.

THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE -- NORTH AND SOUTH -- ARE WEARY OF THIS CONFLICT, BUT THERE HAS BEEN NO WEAKENING IN THE RESOLVE OF THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIET-NAM TO MAINTAIN THEIR FREEDOM. THE YOUTH ARE IMPATIENT TO SET ABOUT THE CREATIVE TASKS OF LIVE. THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE NOARTH WHO CHAFE UNDER THE ILLUSORY DREAMS OF DOMINATION AND THE RIGID AND WHOLLY UNREALISTIC NATIONAL PRIORITIES IMPOSED UPON THEM BY THEIR AGING LEADERS. THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE, BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH, HAVE BEFORE THEM THE PRESSING WORK OF RECONSTRUCTION AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. IT IS TIME THAT THEY BEGAN THAT WORK. IT IS PAST TIME FOR THE SENSELESS SLAUGHTER TO CEASE.

THE UNITED STATES HAD HOPED THAT THE RETURN OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AND THE "PRG" DELEGATIONS TO THE FPJMT MEETINGS WOULD SIGNAL A NEW AND MORE CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE ON THEIR PART. WE ASSUMED THAT THE FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF VIET-NAM IN FULLY RESTORING ALL THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES ENJOYED BY THE OTHER SIDE SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENT SIXTEEN MONTHS AGO HAD LAID THAT MATTER TO REST. IT SEEMED TO US THAT WE HAD A RIGHT TO HOPE THAT THE FPJMT WOULD BEGIN TO MAKE PROGRESS IN ITS REAL WORK -- THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON THE MISSING IN ACTION AND REPATRIATION OF THE REMAINS OF THE DEAD. FROM THE ACTIONS OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AND THE "PRG" DELEGATIONS TODAY, IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THEIR SOLE PURPOSE CONTINUES TO BE TO PROMOTE
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PROPAGANDA AND TO PREVENT REAL PROGRESS. WE HAD HOPED THAT
PROGRESS IN THIS HUMANITARIAN FORUM WOULD INDICATE A WILLINGNESS
ON THE PART OF THE OTHER SIDE TO COOPERATE IN THE FULL IMPLE-
MENTATION OF THE ENTIRE PARIS AGREEMENT. THAT IS STILL OUR HOPE.
MARTIN

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